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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 10/646,135 | 08/22/2003 | Brian C. Wieck | P1927US00 | 8936 |
| 24333 | 7590 | 05/25/2005 | | |
| GATEWAY, INC. ATTN: SCOTT CHARLES RICHARDSON 610 GATEWAY DRIVE MAIL DROP Y-04 N. SIOUX CITY, SD 57049 | | | | |
| | | | EXAMINER LEE, CHRISTOPHER E | |
| | | | ART UNIT 2112 | PAPER NUMBER |
| DATE MAILED: 05/25/2005 | | | | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/646,135

Applicant(s)

WIECK, BRIAN C.

Examiner

Christopher E. Lee

Art Unit

2112

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 August 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/22/03
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the claimed subject matter “electromagnetic interference shielding” in the claims 15 and 16 must be shown or the feature canceled from the claims. No new matter should be entered.
2. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character “190” has been used to designate both “Power Supply” in Fig. 1 and “second power input cable end” in Fig. 3. Furthermore, even though the reference symbol 190 in Fig. 3 clearly points out a second power input cable end, the specification in the paragraph [0015] on page 10 describes the reference symbol 190 is used for “a power supply”.
3. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as “amended.” If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures.
4. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either “Replacement Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 5 is objected to because of the following informalities:

Substitute "configures" in line 2 by --configured--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-4, 7, 11, 12, 19, 20, 22 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Charles et al. [US 6,044,215 A; hereinafter Charles].

Referring to claim 1. Charles discloses a remote docking station apparatus (i.e., apparatus for expansion of a computer; See Abstract) comprising:

- a remote docking station body (i.e., housing 100 of Fig. 1A),
- a power converter (i.e., DC power supply board 126 of Fig. 2) contained within said remote docking station body (See col. 3, lines 66-67), wherein said power converter (i.e., DC power supply board) has an input side (i.e., the pins coupled to conductors 130 in Fig. 2) and an output side (i.e., the pins coupled to five conductor cable 128 in Fig. 2),
- an externally accessible power input connector interface (i.e., AC receptacle 112 of Fig. 1B), said power input connector interface configured to connect to a power input cable (i.e., said AC receptacle being configured to connect to power cable 114 in Fig. 1B) and is in electrical communication with said input side of said power converter (i.e., supplying power to said DC power supply board; See col. 6, lines 46-47),

- at least one externally accessible peripheral connector interface (i.e., mouse port 104, keyboard port 106, video port 12, parallel port 110 and serial port 113 in Fig. 1A-B),
- an externally accessible output connector interface (i.e., PCMCIA port 102 of Fig. 1A) wherein said output connector interface (i.e., PCMCIA port) is in electrical communication with said output side of said power converter (i.e., said DC power supply board supplying power to said PCMCIA port, e.g., pins 18 and 51^{cf. PCMCIA}, in particular; See col. 6, lines 48-53) and is in electrical communication with each of said at least one peripheral connector interface (i.e., all electrical signals from said mouse port, keyboard port, video port, parallel port and serial port being interfaced with said PCMCIA port; See col. 3, lines 28-50); and
- a multipurpose interface cable (i.e., PCMCIA cable 118 of Fig. 1A) configured to connect said output connector interface to a computer (i.e., said PCMCIA cable being configured to connect to portable computer 122 in Fig. 1A).

Referring to claim 2. Charles teaches

- said computer (i.e., portable computer 122 of Fig. 1A) is a portable computer (See col. 5, line 54).

Referring to claim 3, Charles teaches said power input cable (i.e., power cable 114 of Fig. 1B) comprises:

- a first power input cable end (i.e., 3 prong plug at the end of said power cable 114 in Fig. 1B) configured to connect to a power supply source (e.g., wall-mount outlet; See Fig. 1B and col. 6, lines 46-47); and

^{cf. PCMCIA} Charles discloses that a cable 118 of Fig. 1A is a PCMCIA specification compliant, at col. 6, lines 17-18.

- a second power input cable end (i.e., power connector at the other end of said power cable 114 in Fig. 1B) configured to connect to said power input connector interface (i.e., AC receptacle 112 of Fig. 1B).

5 *Referring to claim 4, Charles teaches*

- said first power input cable end (i.e., 3 prong plug at the end of said power cable 114 in Fig. 1B) is configured to connect to a standard electrical socket (i.e., standard 3-prong electrical plug).

Referring to claim 7, Charles teaches

- 10 • said power converter (i.e., DC power supply board 126 of Fig. 2) comprising an AC to DC power converter (See col. 6, lines 46-55, and col. 17, lines 49-55).

Referring to claim 11, Charles teaches said multipurpose interface cable (i.e., PCMCIA cable 118 of Fig. 1A) comprises:

- 15 • a first multipurpose interface cable end (i.e., a second connector 116 of Fig. 1A) configured to connect to said output connector interface (i.e., PCMCIA port 102 of Fig. 1A; See col. 6, lines 25-30), and
- a second multipurpose interface cable end (i.e., a first connector 120 of Fig. 1A) configured to connect to said computer (i.e., portable computer 122 of Fig. 1A; See col. 6, lines 25-27).

20

Referring to claim 12, Charles teaches

- said second multipurpose interface cable end (i.e., a first connector 120 of Fig. 1A) is configured to connect to said computer (i.e., portable computer 122 of Fig. 1A) via a single multipurpose connection interface (i.e., PCMCIA socket 124 of Fig. 1A).

Referring to claim 19, Charles teaches

- said at least one peripheral connector interface (i.e., mouse port 104, keyboard port 106, video port 12, parallel port 110 and serial port 113 in Fig. 1A-B) is configured to receive a serial input (i.e., serial data via serial port 113 in Fig. 1B).

Referring to claim 20, Charles teaches

- said at least one peripheral connector interface (i.e., mouse port 104, keyboard port 106, video port 12, parallel port 110 and serial port 113 in Fig. 1A-B) is configured to receive a parallel input (i.e., parallel data via parallel port 110 in Fig. 1B).

Referring to claim 22, Charles teaches

- said at least one peripheral connector interface (i.e., mouse port 104, keyboard port 106, video port 12, parallel port 110 and serial port 113 in Fig. 1A-B) is configured to receive a PS2 input (i.e., mouse signal via mouse port 104 in Fig. 1B; See col. 6, lines 40-41).

Referring to claim 26, Charles teaches

- said at least one peripheral connector interface (i.e., mouse port 104, keyboard port 106, video port 12, parallel port 110 and serial port 113 in Fig. 1A-B) is configured to receive a video output (i.e., video signal via video port 12 in Fig. 1B; See video port 12 of Fig. 2, and col. 6, lines 59-61).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

5 (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10 8. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Charles [US 6,044,215 A] as applied to claims 1-4, 7, 11, 12, 19, 20, 22 and 26 above, and further in view of Palatov [US 5,510,691 A].

Referring to claim 5, Charles discloses all the limitations of the claim 5, except that does not teach said first power input cable end is configured to connect to an automotive power supply socket.

15 Palatov discloses a modular power supply and modular interconnect system (See Abstract and Fig. 6), comprising a power input cable (i.e., plug 31 and connector 35 in Fig. 6) having a first power input cable end (i.e., plug 31 of Fig. 6) configured to connect to a power supply source (i.e., mobile vehicle, e.g., car, boat plane, etc.; See col. 5, lines 46-50), and a second power input cable end (i.e., connector 35 of Fig. 6) configured to connect to a power input connector interface (i.e., connector 17 and DC-DC converter 37 in
20 Figs. 4 and 6), wherein

- said first power input cable end (i.e., plug 31 of Fig. 6) is configured to connect to an automotive power supply socket (i.e., said plug 31 of Fig. 6 being configured to connect to mobile vehicle, e.g., car, boat plane, etc.; See col. 5, lines 46-50).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was
25 made to have included said modular power supply and modular interconnect system, as disclosed by Palatov, in said remote docking station apparatus, as disclosed by Charles, for the advantage of enabling the user to alternate power sources such as vehicle electrical systems (See Palatov, col. 3, lines 51-54).

9. Claims 6 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Charles [US 6,044,215 A] as applied to claims 1-4, 7, 11, 12, 19, 20, 22 and 26 above, and further in view of Youn et al. [US 6,459,604 B1; hereinafter Youn].

Referring to claim 6, Charles discloses all the limitations of the claim 6, except that does not
5 teach said power converter comprising means for selecting a power output level, said selecting means being externally accessible to said remote docking station body.

Youn discloses a power supply (See Abstract and Fig. 2), wherein a power converter (i.e., DC/DC converter 200 of Fig. 2) comprising

- means for selecting a power output level (i.e., output voltage selector DIP switch 300 of Fig. 2),
- 10 • said selecting means (i.e., DIP switch) being externally accessible to said remote docking station body (See Fig. 3 and col. 4, lines 42-49).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined said power converter (i.e., DC/DC converter), as disclosed by Youn, with said power converter (i.e., DC power supply board), as disclosed by Charles, for the advantage of providing
15 said means for selecting said power output level (i.e., output voltage selector) selecting said power level (i.e., voltage level) appropriate to the associate device (See Youn, col. 2, lines 58-64).

Referring to claim 8, Charles discloses all the limitations of the claim 8, except that does not teach said AC to DC power converter comprising means for selecting a DC power output level, said
20 selecting means being externally accessible to said remote docking station body.

Youn discloses a power supply (See Abstract and Fig. 2), wherein a AC to DC power converter (i.e., AC/DC converter 100 and DC/DC converter 200 in Fig. 3) comprising

- means for selecting a DC power output level (i.e., output voltage selector DIP switch 300 of Fig. 2),

- said selecting means (i.e., DIP switch) being externally accessible to said remote docking station body (See Fig. 3 and col. 4, lines 42-49).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have substituted said power converter AC to DC power converter (i.e., AC/DC converter and

- 5 DC/DC converter), as disclosed by Youn, for said AC to DC power converter (i.e., DC power supply board), as disclosed by Charles, for the advantage of providing said means for selecting said power output level (i.e., output voltage selector) selecting said power level (i.e., voltage level) appropriate to the associate device (See Youn, col. 2, lines 58-64).

10 *Referring to claim 9*, Charles discloses all the limitations of the claim 9, except that does not teach said power converter comprising a DC to DC power converter.

Youn discloses a power supply (See Abstract and Fig. 2), wherein

- a power converter (i.e., DC/DC converter 200 of Fig. 2) has an input side (i.e., DC input in Fig. 2), and an output side (i.e., DC output in Fig. 2), and
- 15 • said power converter (i.e., DC/DC converter) is a DC to DC power converter (See col. 4, lines 7-15).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was

made to have combined said power converter (i.e., DC/DC converter), as disclosed by Youn, with said

power converter (i.e., DC power supply board), as disclosed by Charles, for the advantage of providing an

- 20 output voltage selector selecting a voltage level appropriate to the associate device (See Youn, col. 2, lines 58-64).

Referring to claim 10, Youn teaches said DC to DC power converter (i.e., DC/DC converter 200 of Fig. 2) comprising

- means for selecting a DC power output level (i.e., output voltage selector DIP switch 300 of Fig. 2),
- said selecting means (i.e., DIP switch) being externally accessible to said remote docking station body (See Fig. 3 and col. 4, lines 42-49).

5

10. Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Charles [US 6,044,215 A] as applied to claims 1-4, 7, 11, 12, 19, 20, 22 and 26 above, and further in view of Reid [US 5,982,614 A]

Referring to claim 13, Charles discloses all the limitations of the claim 13, except that does not

10 teach said second multipurpose interface cable end is configured to connect to said computer via a plurality of conventional connection interfaces.

Reid discloses a docking station including a port replicator (See Abstract), wherein means for coupling between computer and peripherals (e.g., socket 210, internal circuitry 400 and manual switch 240 in Fig. 2, and cable 300 of Fig. 3) comprising:

- 15
- a multipurpose interface cable (i.e., cable 300 of Fig. 1) having a first multipurpose interface cable end (i.e., a second end 312 of Fig. 3) configured to connect to an output connector interface (i.e., socket 210 of Fig. 2), and a second multipurpose interface cable end (i.e., a first end 320 of Fig. 3) configured to connect to a computer (i.e., desktop computer 110 of Fig. 1), and
 - said second multipurpose interface cable end (i.e., said first end) is configured to connect to said
- 20 computer (i.e., desktop computer) via a plurality of conventional connection interfaces (i.e., terminators 322, 324, 326 and 328 in Fig. 3; See col. 6, line 57 through col. 7, line 28).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have combined said means for coupling between computer and peripherals, as disclosed by Reid, with said multipurpose interface cable, as disclosed by Charles, so as to make said remote docking station

apparatus support a communication with a computer, which doesn't have a PCMCIA slot, with the additional advantage of providing a simple and straight forward method for selectively interconnecting computer and peripherals (See Reid, col. 7, lines 29-43).

5 11. Claims 14, 21, 23, 24, 25 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Charles [US 6,044,215 A] as applied to claims 1-4, 7, 11, 12, 19, 20, 22 and 26 above, and further in view of Helot [US 6,407,914 B1; cited by the Applicant].

Referring to claim 14, Charles discloses all the limitations of the claim 14, except that does not teach said second multipurpose interface cable end comprising at least one auxiliary input interface
10 configured to receive an input signal and transmit said input signal to said computer.

Helot discloses a docking system for portable computer (See col. 1, lines 5-7), wherein

- a multipurpose interface cable (i.e., interface cable 115 of Fig. 1) having a first multipurpose interface cable end (i.e., dock connector 125 of Fig. 1) configured to connect to an output connector interface (i.e., cable connector of cable dock 130 in Fig. 1), and a second multipurpose
15 interface cable end (i.e., tray connector 120 of Fig. 1) configured to connect to a computer (i.e., cable connector of receiving tray 105 for portable computer 100 in Fig. 1), and
- said second multipurpose interface cable end (i.e., tray connector) comprising at least one auxiliary input interface (i.e., auxiliary connector 510 of Fig. 5) configured to receive an input signal (e.g., signal from keyboard) and transmit said input signal to said computer (See col. 7, line
20 55 through col. 8, line 3).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included said plurality of conventional connection interfaces (i.e., auxiliary connector), as disclosed by Helot, in said second multipurpose interface cable end, as disclosed by Charles, for the advantage of allowing that the user can connect peripheral devices, which must be located relatively near

said computer (i.e., portable computer), directly to said second multipurpose interface cable end (i.e., tray connector) of said multipurpose interface cable (i.e., interface cable; See Helot, col. 8, lines 3-6).

Referring to claims 21, 23, 24, 25 and 27, Charles discloses all the limitations of the claims 21,

5 23, 24, 25 and 27, respectively, except that does not expressly teach said at least one peripheral connector interface being configured to receive a USB input, a IEEE 1394 input, a video input, an audio input or an audio output.

Helot discloses a docking system for portable computer (See col. 1, lines 5-7), wherein a remote docking station apparatus (i.e., cable dock 130 of Fig. 1) comprising

- 10
- at least one peripheral connector interface (i.e., auxiliary connectors 155 on Cable Dock 130 in Fig. 3) is configured to receive a USB input, a IEEE 1394 input, a video input, an audio input or an audio output (See col. 5, lines 9-19).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included said at least one peripheral connector interface (i.e., auxiliary connectors), as

15 disclosed by Helot, in said remote docking station apparatus (i.e., apparatus for expansion of a computer), as disclosed by Charles, for the advantage of allowing the user to attach peripheral devices directly to said remote docking station apparatus (i.e., cable dock; See Helot, col. 8, lines 40-48).

12. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Charles [US 6,044,215 A]
20 as applied to claims 1-4, 7, 11, 12, 19, 20, 22 and 26 above, and further in view of Botchek [US 5,540,601 A].

Referring to claim 15, Charles discloses all the limitations of the claim 15, except that does not teach said multipurpose interface cable comprising electromagnetic interference shielding configured to prevent electromagnetic interference from affecting electric signals in said multipurpose interface cable.

Botchek discloses an adapter for computer interface (See col. 1, lines 6-11), wherein

- a multipurpose interface cable (i.e., flexible cable 102 of Fig. 1) comprising electromagnetic interference shielding (i.e., foil shield being made of aluminum-mylar) configured to prevent electromagnetic interference (i.e., electromagnetic interference - EMI) from affecting electric signals in said multipurpose interface cable (See col. 5, lines 23-31).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used said multipurpose interface cable (i.e., foil shield surrounding cable), as disclosed by Botchek, for said multipurpose interface cable (i.e., PCMCIA cable), as disclosed by Charles, for the advantage of reducing electromagnetic interference, said remote docking station body and said computer with nearby electronic devices as a result of the electromagnetic field induced by the flow of current through the conductors within said multipurpose interface cable, and with the conductors within said multipurpose interface cable as a result of the electromagnetic field caused by the nearby electronic devices (See Botchek, col. 5, lines 28-35).

13. Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Charles [US 6,044,215 A] as applied to claims 1-4, 7, 11, 12, 19, 20, 22 and 26 above, and further in view of Lee et al. [US 5,774,337 A; hereinafter Lee].

Referring to claim 16, Charles discloses all the limitations of the claim 16, except that does not teach electromagnetic interference shielding inside said docking station body configured to prevent electromagnetic interference from affecting electric signals in said docking station body.

Lee discloses an appliance having EMI shielding (See Abstract and col. 1, lines 5-7), wherein

- electromagnetic interference shielding (i.e., metallic shield plate 27 of Fig. 7) inside a docking station body (i.e., personal computer 10 of Fig. 1) configured to prevent electromagnetic interference from affecting electric signals (i.e., EMI shielding) in said docking station body (See col. 2, lines 64-67).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included said electromagnetic interference shielding (i.e., metallic shield plate), as disclosed by Lee, in said remote docking station body (i.e., housing), as disclosed by Charles, for the advantage of reducing the risk of escaping said electromagnetic interference (i.e., electromagnetic waves) generated by a remote docking station (i.e., motherboard; See Lee, col. 5, lines 1-11).

14. Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Charles [US 6,044,215 A] as applied to claims 1-4, 7, 11, 12, 19, 20, 22 and 26 above, and further in view of Moroz et al. [US 6,256,691 B1; hereinafter Moroz].

10 *Referring to claims 17 and 18*, Charles discloses all the limitations of the claims 17 and 18, respectively, except that does not expressly teach said at least one peripheral connector interface is configured to receive a network input or a modem input.

Moroz discloses a universal docking station (See Abstract and Fig. 1), wherein a remote docking station apparatus (i.e., docking station 103 of Fig. 1) comprising

- 15 • at least one peripheral connector interface (i.e., interfaces for a plurality of peripheral devices 107-127 in Fig. 1) is configured to receive a network input (i.e., network interface 115 of Fig. 1) and a modem input (i.e., modem 113 of Fig. 1; See col. 3, lines 50-53).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have included said at least one peripheral connector interface (i.e., interfaces for modem and network), as disclosed by Moroz, in said remote docking station apparatus (i.e., apparatus for expansion of a computer), as disclosed by Charles, for the advantage of allowing a portable computer user to interface said computer (i.e., portable computer) to several different peripheral devices, network in particular (See Moroz, col. 3, lines 6-13, and col. 6, lines 57-63).

Conclusion

15. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

With regard to Docking Stations,

Watts, Jr. [US 6,804,740 B1] discloses docking station for use with a portable computer system.

5 Dayan et al. [US 6,772,264 B1] disclose enabling a docking station for ISA adapters.

Croft et al. [US 5,864,708 A] disclose docking station for docking a portable computer with a wireless interface.

Popescu-Stanesti et al. [US 6,888,338 B1] disclose portable computer and docking station having charging circuits with remote power sensing capabilities.

10 Sterner et al. [US 6,549,416 B2] disclose portable computer docking station with protected connector.

Dharmarajan et al. [US 6,374,148 B1] disclose portable-PC audio system with digital-audio links to external audio in a docking station.

15 Bianchi et al. [US 2003/0117499 A1] disclose docking station that enables wireless remote control of a digital image capture device docked therein.

McElhattan et al. [US 6,442,639 B1] disclose docking station for environmental monitoring instruments.

With regard to Computer/Peripherals Interfacing Adapters,

20 Helot et al. [US 6,628,517 B1] disclose connector system for a docking station of a portable computer system.

Lin [US 2004/0201952 A1] discloses PCMCIA card converter connector.

Kaply et al. [US 6,460,109 B1] disclose integral portable computer input and output switching.

Laity et al. [US 6,697,892 B1] disclose port expansion system.

McCauley [US 6,263,392 B1] discloses method and apparatus for integrating multiple peripheral devices to a host computer.

With regard to EMI shielding,

Ganninger et al. [US 5,965,842 A] disclose low impedance connection for an EMI containment shield including metal plating bonded to the shielded equipment through opening in a conductive ribbon.

Crane et al. [US 5,428,187 A] disclose shielded hybrid ribbon cable assembly.

With regard to Cable and Connector,

Jeansonne et al. [US 6,881,098 B2] disclose system and method for selectively communicatively coupling and transmitting power between an electronic device and a peripheral component.

Clark, Jr. [US 6,810,206 B1] discloses drain plug heater.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher E. Lee whose telephone number is 571-272-3637. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark H. Rinehart can be reached on 571-272-3632. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CEL/ *CEL*

Christopher E. Lee
Examiner
Art Unit 2112

Christopher E. Lee